

been granted to individuals of the expected classes, and no voluntary application has been denied. Thus practically the door has been for a full year open to all except such as were not in condition to make free choice, that is, such as were in custody or under constraint. It is still so open to all, but the time may come, probably will come, when public duty shall demand that it be closed, and that, in lieu, more rigorous measures than heretofore shall be adopted.

In presenting the abandonment of armed resistance to the national authority on the part of the insurgents as the only indispensable condition to ending the war on the part of the government, I retract nothing heretofore said as to slavery. I repeat the declaration made a year ago, that while I remain in my present position I shall not attempt to retract or modify the emancipation proclamation, nor shall I return to slavery any person who is free by the terms of that proclamation, or by any of the acts of Congress. If the people should, by whatever men or means, make it an executive duty to re-enslave such persons, another, and not I, must be their instrument to perform it. In stating a single condition of peace, I mean simply to say that the war will cease on the part of the government whenever it shall have ceased on the part of those who began it.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Appended table of votes in 1860-64.		
	1860.	1864.
California,	118,840	*110,000
Connecticut,	77,216	86,616
Delaware,	16,639	16,224
Illinois,	339,693	348,235
Indiana,	272,143	280,645
Iowa,	128,331	143,331
Kentucky,	145,216	*191,300
Maine,	97,918	115,141
Maryland,	92,502	72,703
Massachusetts,	169,538	175,487
Michigan,	151,747	162,413
Minnesota,	34,799	42,534
Missouri,	165,538	*100,000
New Hampshire,	65,953	69,111
New Jersey,	121,125	128,680
New York,	665,156	730,664
Ohio,	442,441	470,745
Oregon,	14,410	314,410
Pennsylvania,	476,442	572,697
Rhode Island,	79,931	22,187
Vermont,	42,844	55,811
Western Virginia,	46,195	33,874
Wisconsin,	152,180	148,513
Total,	3,870,222	3,982,011
Kansas,		17,234
Nevada,		16,528
Total,		4,015,773

*Nearly. †Estimated.

Laws of Vermont, A. D. 1864.

Designated by the Secretary of State for publication in all the Newspapers.

AN ACT to enable towns to fulfil certain contracts.

It is hereby enacted, &c.

Sec. 1. Any town at a town meeting legally warned and holden, may grant and vote such sum or sums of money as shall be required to enable such town to fulfil its contracts with those persons who have heretofore furnished substitutes without being drafted, pursuant to a vote of the town, and all taxes assessed for the purpose aforesaid are hereby declared legal.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved November 22, 1864.

AN ACT requiring of towns a General Index to their Records of deeds.

It is hereby enacted, &c.

Sec. 1. Each town in the State is hereby required to have and keep a general index to all the books of records of deeds in the office of its town clerk, such as is required by section thirty-three chapter fifteen of the general statutes.

Sec. 2. If in any town where there is no such index, the selectmen shall not cause such index to be made within one year from the passage of this act, then the town clerk of such town, is hereby required to make such index at the expense of the town.

Sec. 3. Any town which shall neglect to have such index shall be prosecuted therefor by indictment or information, and shall be fined fifty dollars for each six months neglect to have such index after the expiration of one year from the passage of this act.

Approved, Nov. 22, 1864.

AN ACT to authorize towns to prepare and publish a soldiers' record.

It is hereby enacted, &c.

Sec. 1. Any town at any annual town meeting, or at any town meeting duly warned for the purpose, may appoint a suitable person, who need not be a resident of such town, to prepare, at the expense of the town, a soldiers' record.

Sec. 2. Said record shall consist of the name of every soldier and sailor furnished by said town during the present war, his age at the time of his enlistment, birth-place, date of his enlistment, date of muster into the service of the United States, rank, promotions, re-enlistment, (if re-enlisted,) date of discharge and cause thereof, (if discharged,) date of pension and amount, (if received,) date of death and cause, (if deceased,) state place and nature of wounds, (if wounded,) bounty received from the town, bounty, if any, received from individuals, and any other facts relating to the military history of every soldier and sailor of said town which may come to the knowledge of the person making the record.

Sec. 3. This record may embrace the name of any soldier or sailor whose birth-place such town is, or who may have lived long enough therein to become a well known inhabitant of the town, but who has served for another town or another State.

Sec. 4. The record must embrace the name of every deserter, and state the fact of his desertion.

Sec. 5. The record may embrace the name of those who have furnished

substitutes, paid commutation, or furnished representative recruits.

Sec. 6. The adjutant and inspector general is hereby authorized and directed to give, on proper application, any information which the record of his office can furnish.

Sec. 7. Any town may order its soldiers' record to be printed and kept for sale at a price not to exceed an advance of twenty per centum on the cost of publication.

Sec. 8. A copy, officially certified to by the compiler of the record, shall be kept in the office of the town clerk.

Approved, Nov. 15, 1864.

AN ACT in addition to chapter twenty-nine of the General Statutes, entitled "Of the Court of Chancery."

It is hereby enacted, &c.

Sec. 1. In any proceedings by bill or petition to foreclose a mortgage, the orator or petitioner may join in such proceedings, as defendant, any subsequent attaching creditor of the premises sought to be foreclosed.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved, Nov. 18, 1864.

AN ACT in addition to chapter eighty-nine of the General Statutes.

It is hereby enacted, &c.

Sec. 1. If a person liable to any of the actions arising under chapter eighty-nine of the general statutes, fraudulently conceal the cause of such action from the knowledge of such person entitled thereto, the action may be commenced at any time within six years after the person entitled to bring the same discovers that he has such right of action, and not afterwards or otherwise.

Approved Nov. 22, 1864.

AN ACT in amendment of section twenty-four of chapter thirty-six of the General Statutes.

It is hereby enacted, &c.

Sec. 1. The proviso of section twenty-six of the general statutes, shall not in any manner affect any suit brought or pending on the first day of August one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved, Nov. 22, 1864.

AN ACT in amendment of chapter sixty-three section twenty-five of the general statutes, entitled "Of the limitations of real and personal actions and rights of entry."

It is hereby enacted, &c.

Sec. 1. That section twenty-five of chapter sixty-three of the general statutes shall not be so construed as to apply to any acknowledgment or promise made prior to August 1, A. D. 1863.

Sec. 4. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved, Nov. 18, 1864.

AN ACT in relation to costs before referees.

It is hereby enacted, &c.

Sec. 1. In hearings before referees appointed by the county court, parties shall be allowed the same fees for travel and attendance as are allowed before auditors in actions of book account.

Approved, Oct. 31, 1864.

AN ACT in addition to chapter one hundred and twenty-six of the General Statutes, entitled "Of salaries, fees, &c."

It is hereby enacted, &c.

Sec. 1. In all judicial proceedings, where either plaintiff or defendant is required by law, to use a United States revenue stamp or stamps, the same shall be allowed in the taxation of costs to the prevailing party so required to use the same.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved, Nov. 1864.

AN ACT to amend section twenty-seven of chapter eighty-four of the General Statutes.

It is hereby enacted, &c.

Sec. 1. Section twenty-seven of chapter eighty-four of the General Statutes, is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

When any constable shall have commenced proceeding in the sale of lands under this chapter, and shall die, remove from the State, become insane, or otherwise incapable of completing the proceedings, his successor in said office shall have power to perform all the duties required by this chapter left unperformed by his predecessors.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved, Nov. 15, 1864.

AN ACT relating to Petit Jurors.

It is hereby enacted, &c.

Sec. 1. That no person shall serve as a Petit Juror at any term of the county court in any county in this State, at which term he may have a cause pending in court to be tried by jury at term he is summoned to serve as a juror, but on motion to the court such juror or jurors shall be discharged from further serving as juror at such term of court.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved, Nov. 15, 1864.

AN ACT to increase the pay of Grand and Petit Jurors.

It is hereby enacted, &c.

Sec. 1. Grand and petit jurors' fees in the county courts, from the first day of Dec. 1864 to the first day of Dec. 1865, shall be, for travel eight cents per mile. For attendance per day two dollars. For each talsman, at the rate of one dollar and fifty cents per day.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved, Nov. 21, 1864.

AN ACT to repeal so much of Chapter Fifteen of the General Statutes as relates to the election of Sealers of Weights and Measures.

It is hereby enacted, &c.

Sec. 1. So much of Chapter fifteen of the general statutes as relates to the election of "Sealers of Weights and Measures" is hereby repealed.

Approved, Nov. 22, 1864.

THE TRANSCRIPT.

ST. ALBANS.

Friday, Dec. 16, 1864.

The President's Message.

Upon the first page of to-day's Transcript will be found printed in legible type and with appropriate headings the last annual message of Abraham Lincoln. It will be read with interest wherever the English language is understood. It presents a condensed narrative of our national affairs. It is a State paper devoid of superfluous words and phrases. Its statements of existing facts, or of proposed measures are so clear and concise, that we commend it to the thoughtful perusal of all into whose hands it may fall, without present comment on its omissions. There seems to be little need of inviting attention to the various matters it discusses.

The single condition of peace and re-union is of course stated to be submission to the constitution. The President reaffirms his purpose to adhere to the emancipation proclamation. The extremists may not all be pleased with the president's declarations in regard to slavery, yet his position will be regarded by the people generally as right and just.

The President admits that both parties in the late presidential contest were anxious to maintain the Union and differed only as to the means. This is undoubtedly true and the sincerity with which the opposition party is acknowledged to be influenced by patriotic motives is a pleasant feature of the message.

Coming from the only Northern President who has ever been re-elected, what he may say to his countrymen after his triumphant re-election may well be regarded as a matter of universal concern. The manner of such speech will undoubtedly not escape attention, and the matter of this executive document will, we are confident, be hailed with general satisfaction.

In the list of Vermont troops, now or recently at Annapolis, Maryland, lately paroled at Savannah, Georgia, we notice the names of private Mathew Patten, from Grand Isle, captured June 23; private Edward A. St. Lewis, St. Albans, of the Vermont Cavalry, captured May 12, and sent to Savannah; John D. Finnegan, from Fairfield, captured Feb. 2, at Newport, S. C., sent to Wilmington and Salisbury, N. C., remained until May 28, thence to camp Santee, Andersonville. Private Eugene Alexander, 2d Vermont Battery, St. Albans, captured August 3, 1863, at Jackson, La., sent to Morton, Miss., thence to Mobile, Ala.; Atlanta, Ga.; thence to Belle Isle, Richmond; thence to Andersonville February 1864; left there September 6, and sent to camp Lawton, near Millen, Ga., and now at St. Albans. Corporal M. Warner, from Milton, 1st Vermont cavalry, captured October 11, 1863, at Brandy Station; sent to Richmond, thence 6th of March to Andersonville. Corp. Charles Tobias, Grand Isle, captured June 23, at Petersburg, sent to Richmond, thence to Andersonville. Private Jason C. Yostburg, West Albany, captured February 3, at Newport, N. C., Barracks; sent to Andersonville. Frank Bannister, Richmond; Corp. Merritt Ingalls, Albany; James Bennie, Albany.

THE HONORED DEAD.—The following is a list of Vermont soldiers from Franklin and Grand Isle counties, buried at Andersonville, Ga.:

Orange Seward, 5th regiment, company C, Highgate; Albert E. Jordan, 17th regiment, company A, Fairfax; Henry Corw, 5th regiment, company C, Sheldon; Herman W. Phelps, 9th regiment, company H, North Hero; Joseph Ladbosh, 17th regiment, company A, St. Albans; Hiram Laraway, 5th regiment, Berkshire; Frank B. Joslin, cavalry, company B, Georgia; Joseph Martin, cavalry, company M, St. Albans.

The following members of company H, 9th Vermont regiment, with date of death and disease, were reported by John D. Finnegan, of Fairfield:

Herman W. Phelps, North Hero, July 19th, diarrhoea; Wayne Hazen, North Hero, Aug. 6, diarrhoea; Thomas H. Pettit, North Hero, November 10, diarrhoea, at camp Lawton, near Millen, Ga.

The following deaths of members of company K, 11th Vermont, are reported by Corp. Charles Tobias, of Grand Isle, himself of that company:

At Millen, Ga., Henry B. Tobias, Grand Isle, November 11, chronic diarrhoea; William H. Stockman, Albany, in November, of diarrhoea; Peter McKenna, Albany, in November, at Andersonville, Ga.; Sergt. Thomas Babcock, Albany; Willard Fox, Albany, in July; Jonathan Roberts, Fairfax, diarrhoea; Joseph Lapoint, Grand Isle, in October, diarrhoea.

After the above resolutions were read and adopted, we separated in good good humor, with the pleasant feeling that we had passed a profitable and agreeable time together.

The houses of the citizens of Sheldon were open to all comers. Faces beamed upon us their smiles of hearty welcome, and lips uttered words of

kindness. To use the language of Irving, who knew how to appreciate such a condition of things, "The tables were loaded with good cheer," and ample provision was made for our bodily comfort. Our Sheldon friends expressed only a single regret, and that was, that their hospitality had not been put to a larger test by a greater number of guests.

For my part, should ever another Institute be holden at Sheldon, I shall certainly attend; and I am sure all my associates will join me in the wish that the means of our hosts may never fall behind their disposition to exercise the sacred and genial rites of hospitality.

Correspondence of The Vermont Transcript.

The Teachers' Institute at Sheldon.

The annual session of the Teachers' Institute, for Franklin County, was holden in Sheldon on the 6th and 7th days of the current month. In spite of the wretched condition of the roads, there was a respectable attendance both of teachers and citizens. Mr. J. S. Adams, the Secretary of the Board of Education, conducted the exercises with his usual ability, and the interest which he excited in the subject of his lectures was unflagging from first to last. Indeed, those who let slip the opportunity of hearing Mr. Adams discourse on the important work of education, are not aware what a rare intellectual treat they are losing. His scope is a large one, touching not merely upon the ordinary functions of teachers, but comprehending our duties, as we are members of the commonwealth, and also our social and domestic relations.

Not only do the teachers present learn many valuable hints as to the best methods of instruction, as to the best means of developing the youthful faculties, and bringing into action the earnestness and enthusiasm of those young natures which are so apt to lie dormant in our common schools, but they obtain broader views of the profession of teaching, and a more appreciative estimation of the teachers' influence in moulding the characters of the rising generation. Nor are teachers exclusively benefited by Mr. Adams' masterly interpretation of the laws of education and of mind, but parents are awakened to thought about their responsibilities, while with stirring eloquence he opens the many avenues of effort by which they can reach the hearts and consciences of their children. Several of the most intelligent ladies of Sheldon were heard to say that Mr. Adams had thrown new light upon their views of education, or had deepened their convictions of their views of education, or had deepened their convictions of their obligations as parents.

Friend, who ever thou art that readest these lines, whether father, or mother, or teacher, or well wisher to the human family in Vermont, let me counsel you to avail yourself of the first institute, which may hereafter fall in your way, to profit by the instructive, eloquent talk of the Secretary of the Board of Education.

Several gentlemen were present, who added to the interest of the occasion by their words of approval and endorsement of the lectures we had listened to, viz: Rev. John B. Perry and Mr. Meade, of Swanton, Rev. Messrs Tolman and Hawley, of Sheldon, and Rev. Mr. Fitch of Illinois.

A committee, consisting of Rev. Messrs Fay and Perry and J. S. D. Taylor, was appointed to draw up resolutions touching matters of interest connected with the institute. Accordingly towards the close of the session, the following resolutions were submitted to the consideration of the audience, and adopted.

Resolved, that our hearty thanks are due, and are hereby tendered, to J. S. Adams, Esq., for the instructive, interesting and efficient manner, in which he has introduced the exercises of the present institute.

Resolved, that we are gratified to notice the marked prominence given by the Secretary of the Board on this occasion, to the advantages of graded schools, and that in our judgment the subject has a valid claim upon the more thoughtful and intelligent consideration of our citizens generally.

Resolved, that we have noticed with unfeigned pleasure that the Secretary recommends that much greater comparative prominence be given to the study of geography and English grammar, as means of intellectual discipline and culture in our common schools.

Resolved, that in our estimation the present crisis of our country imperatively demands that far more attention and time be devoted to the study of the history and constitution of the United States.

Resolved, that considering the badness of the roads, we have great occasion for encouragement in seeing so many of our citizens, and especially of the teachers in our common schools, present at the exercises of the Institute, and we sincerely hope that all will be able in future to avail themselves still more largely of the advantages for improvement, afforded by the educational gatherings in the county.

Resolved, that our grateful acknowledgments be returned to the people of Sheldon for their cordial and generous hospitality during the session of the Institute.

After the above resolutions were read and adopted, we separated in good good humor, with the pleasant feeling that we had passed a profitable and agreeable time together.

The houses of the citizens of Sheldon were open to all comers. Faces beamed upon us their smiles of hearty welcome, and lips uttered words of

kindness. To use the language of Irving, who knew how to appreciate such a condition of things, "The tables were loaded with good cheer," and ample provision was made for our bodily comfort. Our Sheldon friends expressed only a single regret, and that was, that their hospitality had not been put to a larger test by a greater number of guests.

For my part, should ever another Institute be holden at Sheldon, I shall certainly attend; and I am sure all my associates will join me in the wish that the means of our hosts may never fall behind their disposition to exercise the sacred and genial rites of hospitality.

Correspondence of The Vermont Transcript.

The St. Albans Raiders.

Examination Resumed and Concluded.

MONDAY, December 14th, 1864.

To the Editors:

On yesterday Judge Counsel's examination of the St. Albans Raiders was brought to a sudden termination. Mr. Kerr, of counsel for the prisoners took an exception to the jurisdiction of the Court. The matter was discussed on both sides and after a recess until 8 o'clock, Judge Counsel sustained the objection to his want of jurisdiction—claiming that the provincial act to carry into effect the Ashburton Treaty had not received the requisite royal sanction. Judge Counsel ruled that the Imperial Statutes must be his authority which required that the warrant under which such prisoners were to be arrested should be signed by the Governor General. Under the circumstances he ordered the release of all the prisoners—which decision was followed by some applause which was soon checked.

Mr. Bernard Devlin warmly urged the Court not to discharge all the prisoners. Mr. E. G. Johnson, Q. C. also made some excellent remarks and Hon. John Rose would have addressed the Court in regard to the decision, but the Counsel for the prisoners objected and the Court declined to hear further arguments.

Mr. Lamotte, Chief of Police, upon receiving a demand for the money robbed from the St. Albans banks, delivered it up to them and at a late hour on Tuesday night the robbers started for the West. It is said that new warrants were obtained for their arrest but were not ready to be served until the jail broke down. It may strike you by surprise that Mr. Edmonds the Counsel for the United States, had not arrived in Montreal when Judge Counsel called the case.

Your vigilance at St. Albans, now these marauders are at liberty, must not be relaxed at your peril.

I have seen nothing in the appearance or conduct of these prisoners or any of them that excites any other feeling than that of contempt. The leader pretends to be a "Lieut. of Militia" in the Confederate service. All of them seem to be desperadoes and you St. Albans would do well to be on the alert.

They or their confederates will not visit you in the day-time or read any more psalms at the Tremont House in the hearing of the guests; but they may come with their black valises and phosphorus by night.

A friend has shown to me Col. Benton's last order and the first one of Gen. Barstow, both of which seem to me to be opportune and necessary. The telegraph heralds also one from Gen. Dix at New York but I have not seen it. I presume however it is correct if true.

Yours truly,

QUI VIVE?

The electoral college of Vermont met at Montpelier Dec. 7 and organized by appointing Hon. Daniel Kellogg, President and Hon. S. M. Dorr, as Secretary. Of course their votes were cast for Lincoln and Johnson. Hon. Albert S. Catlin, of Burlington, was appointed special messenger to carry the vote to Washington.

At the quarterly meeting of the clerical Convocation of the Protestant Episcopal Church holden at Royalton Vt. Dec. 6, 7, and 8 the Rev. Edward H. Randall Pastor of Grace Church, Randolph was ordained Priest, by Bishop Hopkins. The next convocation will be held at Windsor in March next.

The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Vermont will be held at Burlington on the second Wednesday of January, 1865, being the 11th day of the month.

The well Union prisoners in Georgia were removed to Florida when the sick prisoners were sent north.

The London Saturday Review says that false hair and dyeing, and the use of padding and rouge, are clearly intended to obtain admiration on false pretences, and so amount to social swindling. What a fearful grotesque world this would be if every body were socially honest to the extreme point here taken. We are content to be "swindled."

LATE WAR NEWS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.

To Maj. Gen. Dix:

The Richmond papers of yesterday report Gen. Sherman at Bloomingdale, 15 miles from Savannah, on Saturday. He is reported by this morning's Richmond papers, as will be seen by the following telegram from Gen. Grant, to be in line of battle not 6 miles from Savannah:

CITY POINT, Dec. 13.

To Hon. E. M. Stanton:

Richmond papers of to-day contain the following: The dispatch says: Sherman is near Savannah, probably not 5 miles distant, but has not yet made an attack. It is still doubtful whether he will do so or make for the canal south east of the city. It is very certain he has not yet opened communications with the coast though he may do so very soon.

LATER.—A telegraph dispatch received from below Charleston states that Sherman was in line of battle—it will not say where—confronted by a strong Confederate force. Another paper states there has been no direct communication with Savannah for several days, but we apprehend the wires have been cut between that place and Charleston.

U. S. GRANT.

The severity of the weather has prevented any important movements by either side at Nashville. Nothing of importance is reported to-day from the armies of the Potomac or of the Shenandoah Valley.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

New York, Dec. 14.

The World has an account of a battle in front of Savannah, on Saturday the 10th inst.

It says 20,000 of Sherman's men at an early hour crossed the Ogeechee river 12 miles south of Savannah, and passing between that point and Telfair. The left wing extended so as to cut the Charleston and Savannah railroad.

The rebels were alarmed at finding themselves threatened both in front and rear by superior forces.

Gen. Sherman, who was on the field, found himself confronted by a large force of regulars and militia on trenches. The battle began early in the day was contested with great fury by both sides, the garrison at Savannah, numbering 12,000 veterans, participating.

Our men from a heavy march, the previous night, and the severe fighting were about worn out. The loss was severe on both sides—25,000 Union and 30,000 or 40,000 rebels. Among the latter were fully 1200 prisoners, including many officers of rank. Colors, cannon, small arms, wagons and caissons were also captured.

Smith, Hardee and Cobb were in command of the rebels. The rebel loss at first was less than ours owing to their protection, but at the close of the action they suffered tremendously. It was believed that all the rebels at the head of the list would be captured 4000 or more in number.

These facts, says the World, have been carefully